

Westbury

	FG	F	PF	Pt
Kinch	1	0-0	1	2
Total	32	10-20	24	76

ANNIVERSARY OF BRADY SHOOTING

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Republican assault on sane gun control laws begins. A hearing will be held on the repeal of the assault weapons ban. And that is only the beginning. Gov. George Allen of Virginia wants felony-free citizens to be able to carry concealed weapons in public.

Never mind that gun control measures have been a God send for our children's safety. The Brady law alone has stopped 70,000 felons and other prohibited individuals from buying handguns. But facts do not seem to matter to the Republican juggernaut bank-rolled by the NRA.

The gun industry with its fistful of dollars has churned out 210 million guns into circulation in this country. That's more than one gun per adult.

Moreover, the gun industry provides yet another example of corporate welfare. It is exempt from the product safety laws which cover every other industry. This special treatment must stop.

I have introduced the Firearms Safety and Violence Prevention Act, H.R. 915, which would halt this form of welfare for the gun industry by recognizing firearms for what they are—inherently dangerous consumer products. The bill would give the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms [ATF] the ability to set safety standards, issue recalls of defective firearms, and mandate warnings.

The firearms industry's assertion that guns don't kill you rings as hollow as the discredited promises of tobacco companies that cigarettes don't cause cancer. For more than a century, America's gun manufacturers have operated in the shadows, avoiding public scrutiny. It is time for Congress to look behind the gun store counter to the industry that manufactures these deadly weapons.

IN THE COMPANY OF WOMEN—CELEBRATION OF DADE COUNTY'S EXCEPTIONAL WOMEN

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, It is my great pleasure to join with the citizens of Dade County in recognizing the achievements of 12 outstanding women who are among Dade County's exceptional leaders.

This year's celebration on Friday, March 31, is dedicated to County Commissioner Katy Sorenson, one of Dade County's truly outstanding woman leaders. Although she has been on the Commission for less than a year, Commissioner Sorenson has taken tough

stands against discrimination and sexual harassment. Her government and community work has had a big impact on Dade County.

This year's honorees include:

Josefina Carbonell—a pioneer of community social services, and one of the founders of the Little Havana Activities & Nutrition Center serving over 32,000 elderly citizens.

Cynthia W. Curry—a dedicated professional and a skilled administrator, she served as Dade County's first women assistant county manager.

Ruth Owens Kruse—a tireless advocate of children, particularly emotionally disturbed children, since 1945, her special contributions were recognized by the establishment of the Ruth Owens Kruse Education Center by the Dade County Public Schools.

Alina E. Becker—a volunteer who has tirelessly served the people of Dade County through her work for non-profit organizations such as the YWCA, the United Way, and the Family Health Center.

Angela R. Bellamy—a respected administrator who has dedicated her career to public service, she was the first African-American woman to become assistant city manager for the City of Miami.

Annie Betancourt—a Florida State Representative who brings a wealth of administrative and community experience to the job from her work at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Metro-Dade and Miami-Dade Community College.

Cheryl Little—a gifted attorney who is a truly dedicated and respected advocate and spokesperson for Haitian refugees, she devotes special attention to the needs of immigrant children and family reunification.

Consuelo Otero—dedicated to community service, she helped found the Cuban Women's Club and serves today as the community involvement specialist at Shenandoah Elementary School.

Suzette Pope—a now-retired Dade County Public School employee, she has worked hard to improve educational opportunities, particularly for women.

Frankie Shannon Rolle—a dedicated teacher and counselor for the Dade County Schools and a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. Now retire, she is active in many community organizations.

Marian Harris Shannon—a teacher, counselor and volunteer who has helped develop dozens of young writers and who, while in high school, helped establish a library for the African-American community.

Dorothy Thomson—as the first woman mayor of Coral Gables, and as vice mayor, she has worked hard for community improvements like the renovation of the Biltmore Hotel and was instrumental in founding Coral Gables Crime Watch.

Mr. Speaker, these remarkable women have opened doors and created new paths for women in our community. Their efforts have immeasurably improved Dade County and their example has had a huge impact on countless lives. I know that my colleagues join me in honoring them today.

MESSAGE OF BETTER BUSINESS BUREAUS

HON. THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 1995

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to meet recently with two business leaders from by congressional district, Lee Dudley, an investment banker with A.G. Edwards, and Thomas J. Gallagher, president of the Better Business Bureau of Central Virginia. Accompanying them was James L. Bast, president and CEO of the Council of Better Business Bureaus. Lee Dudley and Tom Gallagher both serve on the board of directors of the council.

These three business leaders came to brief me on the redesign of the Better Business Bureau system, their continued commitment to an ethical marketplace, and their vision for business in the 21st century.

Because the 163 Better Business Bureaus and branches are an invaluable resource to businesses and consumers across the country, I want to share their message with my colleagues.

The mission of the Council of Better Business Bureaus is to promote and foster the highest ethical relationship between business and the public through: voluntary self-regulation, consumer and business education, and service excellence.

For more than 80 years, marketplace ethics have been the central thrust of the Better Business Bureaus.

The Council is the umbrella organization for the nation's 163 Better Business Bureaus (BBBs) and branches—together, known as the Bureau system. The Council and the Bureaus are business membership organizations. They have as members nearly 250,000 national corporations and local small businesses. These 250,000 businesses vote with their membership dues for an ethical marketplace. The Bureau system serves 95 percent of the U.S. population living in metropolitan areas of the country.

Two of the most important functions of the Bureaus are to issue reliability reports on business firms and to respond to consumer complaints. In 1994 the Bureau system handled some 15.8 million pre-purchase inquiries relating to approximately \$44.2 billion in buying power and 1.8 million complaints.

In addition to collecting and disseminating data on local and national companies, other BBB services include:

Consumer information/education programs that include reports, public service announcements and booklets covering a variety of consumer and business topics;

A Philanthropic Advisory Service (PAS) that sets standards for charities and assesses the programs and fundraising practices of hundreds of organizations that solicit nationally, a program paralleled by most of the Bureaus which review thousands of local charities;

Self-regulatory processes to foster truth and accuracy in advertising. On the national level, the Council's preeminent National Advertising Division (NAD) resolves disputes about national advertising claims and the Children's Advertising Review Unit reviews advertising directed at children. Paralleling the NAD work, many Bureaus have local advertising review programs;

Alternative dispute resolution services for conciliation/mediation/arbitration programs to help businesses improve customer service and resolve consumer-business disputes, the